

## THE TIMES DAILY SERIAL STORY The Grand Babylon Hotel

By E. A. BENNETT

The strange going on in a big London mystery, which changes hands in rapid transit fashion, characteristic of the American millionaire who comes into possession of it and its mysteries.

### Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

When Theodore Racksole, an American millionaire, bought the Grand Babylon Hotel in London, he found it had an elephant on its hands. Its reputation as a "hoedown" venture was sustained when, a few days after he took charge, Reginald Dimmock, in the service of Prince Albert, uncle of the Grand Duke of Saxe, was murdered on the premises and his body was mysteriously carried away.

Mr. Racksole dismissed Jules, the head waiter, as a suspicious character; and the disappearance of Miss Spencer, the bureau clerk, followed.

Her place was taken by Nella Racksole, daughter of the owner. The new clerk's interest was attracted by a visitor who turned out to be Miss Spencer in disguise, and she followed her to the former employee to Ostend, where she confronted her at the point of a revolver. Jules was really Tom Jackson, her husband, but by strategy he had won the revolver from Jules. When she was released, Jules was really Tom Jackson, her husband, but by strategy he had won the revolver from Jules. When she was released, Jules was really Tom Jackson, her husband, but by strategy he had won the revolver from Jules.

### CHAPTER XII.

Rocco and Room No. 111.

N the afternoon of the same day—the interview just described—Rocco, in the morning—Racksole was visited by another idea, and he said to himself that he ought to have thought of it before.

The conversation with Mr. Sampson Levi had continued for a considerable time and they had exchanged various notions and agreed to meet again, but the theory that Reginald Dimmock had probably been a traitor to his family—a traitor whose resistance had caused him to have an interest in the temporary disappearance of Prince Eugene.

Now, as Racksole considered in detail the particular affair of Reginald Dimmock, deceased, he was struck by one point especially to wit: Why had Dimmock and Jules maneuvered to turn Nella Racksole out of room 111 on that night?

That they had maneuvered, that the broken window pane was not a mere accident, Racksole felt perfectly sure. He had felt perfectly sure all along, but the significance of the facts had not struck him.

It was plain to him now that there must be something extraordinary and of peculiar importance about room No. 111.

After lunch he wandered quietly up stairs and looked at room No. 111; that is to say, he looked at the outside of it. It had been occupied, but the guest was leaving that evening.

The thought crossed his mind that there could be no object in gaining blankly at the outside of a room; yet he gazed; then he wandered quickly down again to the next floor, and in passing along the corridor of that floor he stopped, and with an involuntary gesture stamped his foot.

"Great Scott!" he exclaimed. "I've got hold of something—No. 111 is exactly over the waste-pipe."

He went to the bureau and issued instructions that No. 111 was not to be let to anyone until further orders. At the bureau they gave him Nella's note, which ran thus:

"Dear Papa: I am going away for a day or two on the train. I am not back in three days, begin to inquire for me at Ostend. Till then leave me alone. Your affectionate daughter, 'NELL'."

These few words in Nella's large, sprawling hand, filled one side of the paper. At the bottom was a "P. S." He turned over, and read the sentence, underlined. "P. S.—Keep an eye on Rocco."

"I wonder what the little creature is up to," Mr. Racksole murmured as he tore the letter into small bits and threw them into the waste-paper basket.

Then, without any delay, he took the lift down to the basement, with the object of making a preliminary inspection of Rocco in his lair.

He could scarce bring himself to believe that this suave and stately gentleman, this enthusiast of gastronomy, was concerned in the machinations of Jules and other rascals uncovered by him. Nevertheless, from habit, he obeyed his daughter, giving her credit for a certain amount of perspicacity and cleverness.

The kitchens of the Grand Babylon Hotel are one of the wonders of Europe. Only three years before the events now under narration, Felix Babylon had had them newly installed with every device and put them at the disposal of two continents could supply.

## Secretary of State and Mrs. Knox Going to Bretton Woods Tomorrow

### Japanese Ambassador and Wife Will Return Thursday.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Knox, who have been at the country place at Valley Forge, Pa., for the greater part of the summer, will go to the Bretton Woods tomorrow, to spend the month at the Mt. Washington.

The Japanese Ambassador and Baroness Uchida will come to Washington Thursday from the summer headquarters of the embassy at Buena Vista, to make preparations for their departure the last of the month. The Ambassador has just been appointed minister of foreign affairs in the cabinet of the Japanese Empire, and they will leave for Japan within a few weeks. Baron Uchida's successor at the post at St. Petersburg has not as yet been named.

### Mr. and Mrs. Whitford Return From Summer Trip.

Mr. and Mrs. George Langdon Whitford have returned to their home on Newland street, Chevy Chase, from their summer home, "The Farms," at Waterloo, N. H., where they spent July and August and "The Weirs," N. H., where they have been for the last few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Denegre, who spent the summer in London, where they leased a house for the coronation festivities, have returned to this country, but through their summer home at West Manchester, Mass.

Miss Helen Lee is spending a few weeks at the Casino at Newport.

Brig. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, U. S. Army, is spending a few days visiting his mother in Ohio.

Baron Uskull of the Russian embassy, has gone to Newport and is a guest at the Muenchinger-King cottage.

Senator Taylor and Wife Going to Tennessee.

Senator and Mrs. Robert L. Taylor will close their apartment in Stoneleigh Court next week and go to the mountains of Tennessee for a month.

Senator Taylor is now spending a few days in Tennessee speech making.

Mr. George W. Ray and Miss Antoinette Ray will return to Washington the latter part of the week from Bloucton, Md., where they have spent the season.

Miss Marie Ray, who has been with her mother for several weeks, is a house party for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Sympet W. Hendrick are spending some time at Atlantic City.

Mr. Justice Lorton and Wife in Germany.

Mr. Justice and Mrs. Lorton, who have been abroad since the latter part of July, are now in Germany. They will sail for this country September 27, and expect to arrive in Washington about the October 4. Mr. and Mrs. Lorton will be accompanied by their daughter, Miss Lorton, who is a student at the University of Berlin.

The Justice and Mrs. Lorton spent the early part of the season at their home in Tennessee and at the Virginia Hot Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Bates Warren have closed their country place, Montgomery Hall, in Virginia, and will come to Washington for a day or two en route to Atlantic City. They are making the trip by automobile.

Dr. L. Fleet Luckett has returned to Washington and opened his home on Rhode Island avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Wolf have returned to Washington after a trip to the White Mountains.

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### Mrs. Anderson Returns To New England Estate

Mrs. Larz Anderson, who has been spending a few days in Washington supervising the closing of her handsomely furnished Massachusetts estate at Bar Harbor for the summer, has returned to the Weld, her beautiful estate at Brookline, Mass.

Mr. Anderson, who has recently been appointed American minister to Belgium, is now abroad, but will return shortly to accompany Mrs. Anderson across. They are due at Brussels early in November.

Mrs. H. W. Kennard, wife of the British charge d'affaires at Havana, has returned to this country and is spending a few days the guest of Mrs. Meyer, wife of the Secretary of the Navy, at the Meyer country place at Hamilton, Mass. She is accompanied by her infant son born a few months ago at Havana. Mrs. Kennard was formerly Miss Harriet Norris of Washington, her marriage to Mr. Kennard taking place a few years ago when Mr. Kennard was secretary of the British embassy here.

Mr. Kennard will join his wife shortly, and they will sail from New York September 29 for the post at St. Petersburg, to which he was transferred from Washington, with duty in Cuba for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Hendrick.

The Misses Hendrick Return.

Mrs. David Stewart Hendrick, Miss Hendrick and Miss Lillian Hendrick, who have been spending the summer in the Adirondacks, have returned to Washington and opened their residence on Bancroft place for a few days.

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### Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Are to Sail From New York Shortly.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Goeliet Gerry, who have been occupying a cottage at Bar Harbor for the summer, have gone to New York, from where they will sail shortly to join Mrs. Gerry's mother, Mrs. Richard Townsend, at Carlsbad. Mrs. Townsend has been abroad since early in the summer.

Miss Margaret M. Killen, of P street, is spending some time at Marion, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Lorton, Jr., and their children, who spent the summer at their home in Nashville, Tenn., have returned to Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Culp, who are now in Canada, are expected to return to Washington the latter part of this month.

Mr. Justice and Mrs. Van DeVanter.

Mr. Justice and Mrs. Van DeVanter, who have been spending the summer at their old home, in Wyoming, will return to Washington the latter part of this month.

Judge Barney, of the Court of Claims, and Miss Barker, who have spent the summer at West Bend, Wis., will return to their apartment in the Champlain early in October.

Dr. Hammett Returns After Summer Trip.

Dr. Charles M. Hammett has returned to Washington after several weeks at Atlantic City and Old Point Comfort.

Miss Luella P. Chase has returned to her home in Covington, Ky., after an extended visit to her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Ellis.

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### FOR LITTLE FOLK JUST BEFORE BEDTIME

## The Sandman's Stories

### THE FIREFLIES AND THE FAIRIES.

THE FIREFLIES were just a plain bug fitting about in the night like any other bug, until the fairies gave it the power to give forth the light which we now see at night.



The fairies were always bothered by the goblins, who, as you know, are always trying to catch them.

So each little fly was given a tiny lantern with a dark and a bright side. When the fly turned the dark side of his lantern out, and he told the others, "Let us catch them," he said: "They are just what we want to light the dark passage, as you know, but they are not to be caught by the goblins. When they reach out their little hands they quickly dropped the firefly and ran, but the fireflies chased them, swinging their lanterns and blinding the goblins as they went."

One night the queen called a meeting. "Something must be done," she said, "to put an end to the pranks of these goblins."

"If we could only see," said one fairy, "if we could only see the end of our wand, we could not jump at them and suddenly, it is only because they startle us that we are afraid of them."

"We had a light on the end of our wand," said another, "but that was not bright enough; what we need is to have lights all through the woods and fields."

"There are all those little brownish flies with red marks on their bodies," said another fairy, "they fly about so slowly that we are always bumping into them, they could carry the lanterns and would always have lights, for those flies are everywhere."

"I will ask them," said the queen. "The little brown flies were sent for."

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goblins as they could not see their way. They were glad when the fireflies left them, and they went into their rocks, and the fireflies were safe and the goblins were on fire.

But one of the goblins saw a firefly when he turned the dark side of his lantern out, and he told the others, "Let us catch them," he said: "They are just what we want to light the dark passage, as you know, but they are not to be caught by the goblins. When they reach out their little hands they quickly dropped the firefly and ran, but the fireflies chased them, swinging their lanterns and blinding the goblins as they went."

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